

Pedestal Mounted Stinger (Avenger)

Description

The Avenger system provides the MAGTF with a highly mobile Air Defense platform that employs the Stinger missile against close in, low altitude, fixed and rotary wing aircraft throughout the theater of operations. The Avenger is a High Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) based platform capable of near simultaneous firing of 8-guided air defense Stinger Missiles via the Standard Vehicle Mounted Launcher and an electronic .50 caliber machinegun. The Avenger employs a gyro-stabilized turret, which allows the operator to shoot both missiles and .50 caliber machinegun on the move and is additionally equipped with Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), and a laser range finder. The Avenger will have upgrades, including the final procurement of the Avenger Fire Control Computer (AFCC), which replaces the obsolete Avenger Control Electronics, as well as initial replacement of the FLIR/Slip ring.



Operational Impact

The Avenger employs the only Air Defense Weapon in the forward area. It supports the maneuver style of warfare of the MAGTF providing defense against high speed, close in, low altitude, fixed and rotary wing aircraft throughout the theater of operations. However, the magnitude of the threat has proliferated to the point that most developed countries are developing more advanced systems. The Avenger enhancements allow the MAGTF to fully capitalize on the upgrades to the Block I configuration Stinger Missile and provide increased defense against low-aspect angle targets, reactive infrared countermeasures, night engagements, and engaging targets in clutter.

Program Status

The Avenger is a fully fielded system with upgrades fielding in early FY02 and completing in late FY04.

<i>Procurement Profile</i>	<i>FY02</i>	<i>FY03</i>
<i>AFCC Quantity:</i>	31	0
<i>FLIR/Slip Ring Quantity:</i>	0	75

Developer/Manufacturer Raytheon Corporation